

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

~~WE CLAIM:~~ I CLAIM:

1. (Currently Amended) An article of jewelry including two or more gemstones, the article comprising:

a seat;

a gemstone positioned on the seat;

two prongs positioned one on each side of the gemstone, each prong of the two prongs having a bezel formed therein, the gemstone retained within the bezel;

an additional seat;

an additional gemstone positioned on the additional seat;

two additional prongs positioned one on each side of the additional gemstone, each prong of the two additional prongs having a bezel formed therein, the additional gemstone retained within the bezel; and

a shared prong positioned between the gemstone and the additional gemstone, the shared prong having a bezel formed on each side to partially engage with a respective inner edge of the gemstone and the additional gemstone, the article of jewelry including an exposed and unbound outer edge of the gemstone and an exposed and unbound outer edge of the additional gemstone, each exposed and

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unbound outer edge opposite the shared prong and the respective inner edge and freely extending between the two prongs or between the two additional prongs.

2. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 1 wherein the seat includes a conical taper that engages with the gemstone.

3. (Currently Amended) The article of jewelry of Claim 1 further comprising:

a second additional seat;

a second additional gemstone positioned within the seat; and

a second shared prong positioned between the additional gemstone and the second additional gemstone and forming a negative space between the gemstones.

4. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 1 further comprising:

an array of additional seats;

a corresponding array of additional gemstones positioned within the respective seats, each additional gemstone of the array of additional gemstones positioned between two prongs; and

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a shared prong positioned between each additional gemstone of the array of additional gemstones so that each gemstone along an outer edge of the article of jewelry includes an exposed outer edge.

5. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 4 wherein the array of additional gemstones are formed in a ring shape.

6. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 4 wherein the array of additional gemstones are formed in a lattice.

7. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 6 wherein the lattice is positioned on a ring.

8. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 6 wherein the lattice is positioned on a pendant.

9. (Currently Amended) An article of jewelry comprising:
a plurality of gemstones, each gemstone of the plurality of gemstones positioned in a seat;

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a pair of prongs positioned one on each side of each gemstone;
a shared prong positioned between each gemstone; and
each gemstone positioned at a peripheral edge of the article of jewelry
including an exposed outside edge freely extending between the pair of prongs.

10. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 9 wherein the seat
comprises a tapered ring.

11. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 9 wherein the
plurality of gemstones are formed in a ring.

12. (Currently Amended) The article of jewelry of Claim 9
wherein at least three of the plurality of gemstones are formed in a lattice form a
negative space between the gemstones.

13. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 9 wherein each
prong of the pair of prongs includes a bezel formed along an inside edge of the prong,
an edge of the gemstone fitting within the bezel.

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14. (Original) The article of jewelry of Claim 9 wherein the shared prong includes a pair of bezels formed along each of two opposite sides of the shared prong, the pair of bezels accommodating inner edges of adjacent gemstones of the plurality of gemstones.

15. (Currently Amended) A ring comprising:
a plurality of gemstones aligned in a row;
a pair of prongs, each prong of the pair of prongs positioned on opposite sides of each gemstone of the plurality of gemstones; and
a shared prong positioned between each gemstone in the row, so that an outer edge of each outer gemstone in the row is exposed and freely extends between the pair of prongs.

16. (Original) The ring of Claim 15 further comprising:
a second row of a second plurality of gemstones positioned adjacent the row.

17. (Original) The ring of Claim 16 further comprising:

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a third row of a third plurality of gemstones positioned adjacent the second row.

18. (Original) The ring of Claim 15 wherein the plurality of gemstones are formed in an array.

19. (Currently Amended) The ring of Claim 18 wherein the array forms a lattice and a negative space between the gemstones.

20. (Original) The ring of Claim 18 wherein the array is one of generally planar along one face of the ring and curved around a circumference of the ring.

21. (Currently Amended) A gemstone presentation comprising:
a plurality of gemstones aligned in a row;
a pair of prongs, each prong of the pair of prongs positioned on opposite sides of each gemstone of the plurality of gemstones; and

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a shared prong positioned between each gemstone in the row, so that each adjacent pair of gemstones is at least partially retained by the shared prong, and each gemstone along an outer edge of the aligned gemstones having an exposed and unbound outer edge opposite the shared prong and extending freely between the pair of prongs.

22. (Original) The gemstone presentation of Claim 21 further comprising:

a second row of a second plurality of gemstones positioned adjacent the row.

23. (Original) The gemstone presentation of Claim 21 further comprising:

a third row of a third plurality of gemstones positioned adjacent the second row.

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24. (Currently Amended) The gemstone presentation of Claim 21 wherein the plurality of gemstones are formed in an array so that adjacent pairs of gemstones share the shared prong and a negative space is formed between the gemstones.